AN ACT concerning

Wage Payment and Collection - Penalties for Violations

FOR the purpose of increasing the [[penalties]] civil penalty for violating certain provisions of the Maryland Wage Payment and Collection Law.

By repealing and re-enacting, with amendments,

Article 100 - Work, Labor and Employment Section 94(f)(1) and (2) Annotated Code of Maryland (1964 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Sections 94(f)(1) and (2) of Article 100 — Work, Labor and Employment, of the Annotated Code of Maryland (1964 Replacement Volume and 1975 Supplement) be and they are hereby repealed and re-enacted, with amendments, to read as follows:

Article 100 - Work, Labor and Employment

94.

- (f) (1) Any employer who wilfully violates the provisions of this subtitle is guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof, may be fined an amount not to exceed \$1,000 [[OR BE IMPRISONED FOR A PERIOD OF NOT MORE THAN SIX MONTHS, OR BOTH]].
- (2) In addition to the criminal penalties provided for in subparagraph (1) hereof, if any employer fails to pay wages required by and in accordance with this subtitle, the Commissioner, upon a finding of such failure after notice to the employer and a hearing, may assess a civil penalty against the employer and payable to the employee, of up to [10%] [[15]] 20 PERCENT of the unpaid wages for each day the wages were wrongfully withheld.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect July 1, 1976.

Approved May 4, 1976.

CHAPTER 243

(Senate Bill 11)